

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

File Number: NRS 15.074

Pursuant to Chapter 0400-4-7 of the Department's rules, the proposed activity described below has been submitted for approval under an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit and §401 Water Quality Certification. This notice is intended to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this application.

**APPLICANT:** Mary Fikri

**AMEC** 

3800 Ezell Road Nashville, TN 37211

615-333-0630

**LOCATION:** CSX Transportation Brownsville two railroad Bridge Replacements, Unnamed tributaries to Hatchie River and Wetlands, Haywood County (Lat: 35.52471/ Lon: -89.30999).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant proposes to replace two existing wooden trestle bridges over unnamed tributaries to the Hatchie River and construct 7,230 feet of a permanent service road along the south side of the track involving fill of 2.9 acre of wetlands.

Impact 1: Latitude: 35.522693 Longitude: -89.313033

Unnamed Trib. To Hatchie River Bridge 325.5

Existing 380' of wooden trestle railroad bridge to be replaced by driving pipe piles at 24' interval along the bridge and setting steel deck girder spans. The existing timber piles would be cut off at ground level and removed. The span width would be 30' +/-.

Impact 2: Latitude: 35.518146 Longitude: -89.319294

Unnamed Trib. To Hatchie River Bridge 326

Existing 300' of wooden trestle railroad bridge to be replaced by driving pipe piles at 24' interval along the bridge and setting steel deck girder spans. The existing timber piles would be cut off at ground level and removed. The span width would be 30' +/-.

<u>Impact 2</u>: Latitude: 35.518146 Longitude: -89.319294

Unnamed Trib. To Hatchie River Cuthbert Switch Road to Bridge 326

Construction of 7,230 feet of service road along the southern toe of the railroad embankment requiring temporary fill of 0.4 acre and permanent fill of 2.9 acre of wetlands. The road would be 20' wide from base of existing slope and 18" in height from existing elevation and would consist of compacted stone (-2 rock) over a geotextile material. Temporary crossings would be installed at bridges 325.5 and 360 and would be removed upon completion of the bridge work. Temporary impacts would be restored to original elevation and vegetated with locally sourced wetland seed.

Debits: 2.9 acres wetlands

**MITIGATION REQUIRED:** The applicant proposes mitigating the permanent impact to 2.9 acre of wetlands by debiting, at a 2:1 ratio, 5.8 acres of available credits from the Hatchie Wetland Mitigation Bank.

**DEGRADATION:** In accordance with the Tennessee Antidegradation Statement (Rule 0400-40-03-.06), the division has determined that the proposed activities will not result in degradation to water quality.

WATERSHED / WATERBODY DESCRIPTION: The impacted tributaries are considered miscellaneous tributaries to the Hatchie River (TN08010208001\_0999). Lower Hatchie River Watershed is located in West Tennessee and includes parts of Chester, Fayette, Hardeman, Haywood, Lauderdale, Madison and Tipton counties. It is approximately 1,461 square miles (1448 square miles in Tennessee) and drains to the Mississippi River. For more information on this watershed please visit <a href="http://www.state.tn.us/environment/water/watersheds/lower-tennessee-river.shtml">http://www.state.tn.us/environment/water/watersheds/lower-tennessee-river.shtml</a>

The miscellaneous tributaries to the Hatchie River (TN08010208001\_0999) affected by this proposal are in the Loess Plains ecoregion (74b). These tributaries are low flowing mid wetland channels that are functional back waters of the Hatchie. The channel dimensions are not well defined due to the nature of the surrounding wetlands. The span of the bridges would represent a better guide to the width of the stream crossing at 380' and 300' with those representing not only the channel width but surrounding wetlands. Typical substrate in this section is comprised of mud and silt. The canopy is open only at the railroad right of way and it otherwise a mix of mature hydric hard and softwoods. The land use is agricultural and wildlife refuges.

Miscellaneous tributaries to the Hatchie River (TN08010208001\_0999) was assessed in 2014. It is supporting its designated uses and is part of the designated Hatchie Wild and Scenic River. The stream and wetlands are available for the proposed impacts since the mitigation site is within the same HUC and the applicant has presented an alternatives analysis and justification.

Stream Name / ID #: miscellaneous tributaries to the Hatchie River (TN08010208001\_0999)

**Ecoregion:** Loess Plains ecoregion (74b) **Stream Dimension:** Channel bottom width

mension: Channel bottom width n/a
Chanel top width n/a
Water depth n/a

Bank height n/a

**Substrate:** mud/silt

Designated Use	Use Support	Causes
Fish and aquatic life	not assessed	The waterbody ID was reviewed in 2014
Recreation	not assessed	but was not specific to this site since
Industrial water supply	not assessed	the channel begins and ends in the wetlands
Irrigation	not assessed	so the use support shall be listed as not
Livestock watering/wildlife	not assessed	assessed.

This stream impacts do not require mitigation so no anti degradation statement is required.

**Assessment Date:** n/a

**PERMIT COORDINATOR:** Brian Canada

**FACTORS CONSIDERED:** In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The department shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The department shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

**COMMENTING:** Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced. Send all written comments to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

**PUBLIC HEARING**: Interested persons may request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department will hold a public hearing. Send all public hearing request to the department's address listed below and to the attention of the permit coordinator.

**APPEAL:** A permit appeal may be filed, pursuant to T.C.A. §§ 69-3-105(i) and Rule 0400-40-05, by the permit applicant or by any aggrieved person who participated in the public comment period announced by this notice. This petition must be filed within THIRTY (30) DAYS after public notice of the issuance of the permit. The petition must specify what provisions are being appealed and the basis for the appeal. It should be addressed to the technical secretary of the Tennessee Board of Water Quality, Oil and Gas at the following address: Tisha Benton, Director, Division of Water Resources, William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, Nashville, TN 37243. Any hearing would be in accordance with T.C.A. §§69-3-110 and 4-5-301 et seq.

**FILE REVIEW:** The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address (listed below) for review and/or copying.

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Division of Water Resources, Natural Resources Unit William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 11th Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243









